

Vital Community Grants support the people, ideas and activities that build community vitality in the Peterborough area, ensuring charities have the skills, tools, and resources to respond to our community's top priorities.

About Vital Community Grants

Each year, the Community Foundation's **Vital Signs**[®] captures how well people's needs are being met, from our most basic needs—food, shelter, health care, safety—to those that give quality to life, such as places and opportunities to play, learn and create. This information helps all of us take better care of our community. In 2017, we asked people in Peterborough what we could do to help build a vital community, and supporting organizations that **strengthen community connections** emerged as the top priority.

A vital community is one where everyone has opportunities to feel like they belong. A sense of belonging strengthens our community: it makes us healthier, happier and more resilient. When we feel like we belong, we're more likely to take on responsibility, participate in problem solving and build social networks. A sense of belonging can even strengthen our economy. Inclusion is the process of addressing marginalization by reducing barriers to community engagement, so that everyone can feel like a part of our community.

How are you strengthening community connections?

In 2019, Vital Community Grants will support local charities working to strengthen community connections.

Successful programs or initiatives might bring neighbours together; foster inter-generational connections; work towards reconciliation; nurture a sense of belonging through the arts or sports; support safe, public and inclusive spaces; provide opportunities to learn and build empathy; welcome newcomers; or serve others experiencing social isolation.

The Community Foundation will consider applications for grants of **up to \$5,000**.

How do we apply?

Applications are only accepted through the online portal on our website: cfgp.ca

[Please see this tutorial for further instructions.](#)

[Please use the budget template provided](#)

[Click here to apply](#)

Apart from the budget, please do not include or send additional materials such as brochures, newspaper clippings, or promotional material of any kind with your request, even in electronic format. We will follow-up with those applicants from whom we require more information.

Who can apply?

Registered charities operating within the City and/or County of Peterborough are eligible to apply for Vital Community Grants. Status as a "qualified donee" in good standing will be verified through the CRA website as part of the application process.

We ask that each organization only submit **one** application.

Project Eligibility?

Each year, the Foundation receives many more requests than it can accommodate with grants. Existing programs are eligible for funding as are pilot projects. All eligible applications are considered.

Your application will be evaluated against the following criteria:

- Demonstrates plan to address belonging and inclusion within the scope of the organization's work
- Benefits people in Greater Peterborough with a focus on removing barriers to participation or addressing diversity, inclusion, equity and reconciliation.
- Demonstrates a well considered plan with clearly demonstrated need, objectives and success criteria
- Shows the organization's capacity to implement the project
- Includes a reasonable project budget and timeframe for completion

Vital Community Grants do not support:

✗capital campaigns ✗faith-based programs ✗individuals ✗national or provincial initiatives with no specific benefit to Peterborough ✗annual funding drives or events ✗deficit funding ✗political activities prohibited by Canada Revenue Agency

What are the reporting requirements?

The Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough is excited to learn how our grants affect the community. We share the stories of our grant recipients with our donors and the broader public.

Grant recipients must commit to completing funded activities and expenditures between the date that the grant is approved and **August 31, 2020**. We ask you to share stories of the impact of your work relating to the grant, and a brief summary of your project, its outcomes, and reflections on lessons learned.

Timeline/Deadline

Applications close at 11:59 pm on Friday, September 27, 2019.

Grants will be reviewed in mid-October and applicants will be notified of decisions by the end of October. A public presentation of grants will take place sometime in November.

Further Information

An information session will be held on September 5th at 1:30 pm in the Nexicom Lounge. Please register using this [link](#). For further information, please email jennifer.debues@cfgp.ca or call (705)740-2347.

